Opinion

New hopes for 1984

Last Monday the families and friends of Abe Calzola, John Moran, Andy Leo, Frank Grecco Jr., and Don McDonough crowded into Carbondale City Council chambers to watch Judge James Munley administer the oath of office to the recently elected councilmen.

Most of the people in the audience, however, had come for the main attraction, the inauguration of Charlotte Moro as Carbondale's first female mayor.

The ceremony was brief and was followed by a few informal remarks by Mayor Moro. Although her impromptu speech was only a couple of minutes long, we felt it was one of the best speeches we've ever heard as far as outlining an official's plans and policy. It said a lot about Charlotte Moro as a person.

She began by announcing that she intends to keep every campaign promise and proceeded to fulfill one by appointing Francis Dottle Chief of Police, eliminating the "acting chief" title he had carried since succeeding the late Chief John Burke. Charlotte Moro wanted to make it clear that she intends to keep her word.

It was during her appointment of Chief Dottle that Mrs. Moro demonstrated two other qualities. "Do your best," she almost lovingly told Dottle, and then quipped, "And if your don't, you'll answer to me!" In one sentence she displayed trust and a keen sense of humor, yet she left no doubt that she will be a boss who intends to take charge.

Next, the new mayor appointed John Kearney as finance director, showing that her first priority is to straighten out the bookkeeping mess at city hall. She also said that she would keep an open government, hiding nothing from the public.

Mrs. Moro said that she has not been satisfied with the credentials of those who have applied for the job of city manager and until she finds the right person she will personally assume most of the city manager's duties -- at no pay!

"I won't say the city is in bad shape. I'll say it is in very, very bad shape!" the mayor said seriously. But she added that one way or another, with the cooperation of city council, she will get Carbondale turned around by the end of her term of office.

Is she Superwoman? No! Mrs. Moro admits, "This burden (of solving the city's financial problems) is more than I can carry alone. I need everyone's help. I need your patience. I can't change things overnight."

She's right. But she has already started to make changes. There's a new attitude at City Hall. It's optimistic.

Plenty of people have had great expectations in the past, only to see them dashed to pieces in the real world of hard knocks. However, we feel that this time something positive will result. We certainly hope so.

Good luck, Charlotte Moro and members of City Council. Best wishes for a healthy prosperous, and progressive 1984!

Letters TO THE EDITOR

Think about it

To the Editor:

An open letter to the people of Carbondale.

First of all, let me say that I was born and raised in Carbondale. I have been away many years. It just happened that the weather was very bad when I arrived. It was one of those storms that caught everyone off guard. As I walked up and down the icy sidewalks and streets, I heard a lot of people complaining about the conditions. Well, you weren't alone. Scranton and all the other nearby communities were in the same state. I guess, being so close to Christmas made you all the more angry. It was expected, but you weren't prepared for it.

The first thing that you complain about is the Street Dept. employees. When you stop to think about it, that isn't fair. When you don't have the tools to work with or the personnel to use them, you really cannot expect to get the job done. Who's to blame? Sorry to say you are.

You have a voice, use it. But use it at the proper time and place. You allow the fuckering that goes on at city hall. You elect the officials and you have to live with them. No one that ever is chosen to lead a city, state or whatever is perfect.

You must do what you think is right, not what any politician tells you. As the saying goes, "you make your bed and you have to lie in it."

I didn't write this to belittle the people of the city. You can travel all over the country and will not find friendlier or more generous people.

I can recall the days before T.V., when people would sit on their porches and communicate with the neighbors. Now the only way you hear what's going on is when you read the papers. This angers me very much. The city gets too much bad press.

It is very apparent that the only news that those reporters can write about is something to knock the city. I am not referring to this newspaper. They do an excellent job. I believe they love the people as I do. It's the other papers' reporters that like to degrade the city and its people. How often do they write about all the good citizens of the town?

Look around at the beautiful churches, stores etc. When you pass Memorial Park across from city hall, stop and pause for a minute and tell yourselves that the men who sacrificed their lives did it for us.

Tell your public officials to slip the shoe on the other foot once in awhile. They can battle hard for themselves, but soon forget why they're there at all.

Remember when the police walked the beat? They were respected in those days. Now as they drive around they get snowballed. Maybe they ought to start walking again. Shoes are a lot cheaper than tires and gas.

I hope when the new leaders take over the city, that they will sit down like human beings and at the very least try to do what is in the best interest of the people.

You came into this world with nothing, you will leave with nothing, but what you did in between, only you can and will answer for.

To the good people of Carbondale. I wish you the best in the years to come and hope my fondest dream will come true - that is the return to Carbondale and the people I love so much.

Sincerely,
Santa Claus

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Do you remember when . . .

15 YEARS AGO

The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Carbondale had placed in escrow with Liberty Discount & Savings Bank $682,065, the amount claimed by the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs as owed to the Commonwealth out of the West Side coal royalities?

A son born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Munley, 32 Gordon Ave., on January 2 was the first Greater Carbondale Area baby of 1969?

A.P. Wells, president of the First National Bank of Carbondale had announced that Kenneth H. Colville, Jr. had been appointed to the board of directors?

A photo was taken of the G&S Fashions Christmas Party? Those who attended were: Viola Ort, Edward Baba, Carmine Zaccone, Mrs. William S. Engel, Mr. Engel, Mr. and Mrs. Shapiro, Catherine Vickers, Alice Schmiel, Leona Parry, Ann Marie Tomczkooki, Joan Acquisto, Ann White, Anne Molinaro, Viola Green, Delores Scotchlas, Anna Mae Rupp, Delores Savage, Sophie Galavitz, Susan Ezman, Elenor Ezman, Josephine Tokarczk, Jean Ezman, Mary Sisko, Anna Bein, Genevieve Graytock, Anna Mikulak, Peggy Horas, Dorothy Price, Marjorie Carroll, Jean Tolerico, victor Dottle, Matt Leonard, Amila Piergis, Annable Wells, Frances Turonis, Martha Muita, Antoinette Glingeesmith, Frances Erzen, Mary Ann Tomczkooki, Joan Bevacqua, Dorothy Bjork, Mildred Washel, Frances Taylor, Josephine Biloski, Margaret Carnchio, Marion Smith, Ann Eganionka, Charlotte Kluck, and Bobby Smith.

20 YEARS AGO

Joe Datto, won a television set and Helen Johnson, 362 Upper Powderly St., won a silver service for eight in the Carney's, Your Merry Christmas Drug Store, 47 Salem Ave.?

Carol Moroom, president of the Carbondale Tri-Hi-Y of 45 members, was the Carbondale representative at a program which included a state sponsored tour of the United Nations in New York during the school year?

Mrs. Lois Ognosky, 1 Cherry Ave., had been advised by Brydon H. Lidle, personnel director, Pennsylvania Department of Health, of her appointment as registrar of vital statistics?

The Cornerstone ceremony was held for the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish School, for the school's new exterior?

The Elk Mountain Ski Club held its election of officers? They were, president, Angelo Oliveri; vice president, Robert Brownell; secretary, Yollie Salvatore; treasurer, Tony DePazio, and correspondance secretary, Marie Golecke?

Kay Orinick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Orinick, 814 Main St., Simpson, began miniature railroading 10 years ago and now has a model railroad setup that covers the entire attic floor of the family home? She has done all of her own carpentry work and wiring for the extensive model railroading layout.

25 YEARS AGO

Robert C. McKinley, chariman for the 1958 June Dairy month observance, reported that Susquehanna and Wayne Counties had more cows than people?

James F. Munley, district mine inspector for the Department of Mines and Mineral Industries, advised Joseph E. Healey, executive secretary of the Carbondale Housing Authority, that tests for mine fire symptoms in the Canaan Street housing development area, located in the neighborhood of the old Canaan Street mine fire, had proved negative?

The Enterprise Hose Company of Forest City installed the following officers: John Zaller, president; John Brancbella, fire chief, Tome Craparo, foreman; Gus DeMark, treasurer; Stanley Zebrowski, financial secretary; Donald Zalesky, recording secretary, Joseph Mikeulewicz, trustee; Joseph Walsh, trustee, and Frank Wilkes, chief driver?

Herbert's Garage at 726 Washington Ave., Jermyn, was gutted by fire but firemen of two Jermyn, two Mayfield and two Archbald companies prevented the fire from spreading despite strong winds?

Yogi Berra and Gil McDougald of the world champion New York Yankees came to Carbondale to accept delivery of Cadillacs at Hornbeck Chevrolet?

Gerard P. Connor of 719 Washington Ave., Jermyn, was appointed Jermyn chief of police?

The following were elected board members at the annual congregational and corporate body meeting of the First Presbyterian Church: Session members Benjamin G. Dann Jr., John J. Risko, John Jenkins, William Kaufman and Rhysworth Wilce; deacons, Miss Grace Copeland, Mrs. henry Morgan, Willima Wallis, Lewis Stine and Harold Herwolf, trustees, Oswald Chambers, Lewis Sleppy and Anthony Comminale?

30 YEARS AGO

John J. Lynne, senior member of City Council, was assigned at the January 4 council reorganization meeting, the duties of director of streets and public improvements, replacing Peter A. Gillette who was named director of public safety?

Ralph Barrese, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Barrese of 19 Barrett Ave., made his debut at 12:15 a.m., New Year's Day at the Carbondale General Hospital to be the first arrival of 1954 in the Greater Carbondale Area?

With 180 in attendance a testimonial dinner was given at the Hotel American in honor of Mayor Frank P. Kelly on the evening of January 4. Mayor Kelly having been sworn in to his first elective term by President Judge T. Linus Hoban that morning?

A NEWS photo of Scranton Spring Brook Water Service Company men at work carried the caption story that a broken water main in the Scott St. mine fire area served as an added cause of annoyance to people living in that section and that indications of the mine fire had been found east of the Scott St., crossing of the New York, Ontario and Western Railway?

Miss Mary B. McAndrew, 68, superintendent of the city's public schools, submitted her resignation to the School Board, effective July 5, 1954, to end a career of 49 years in the field of education?

Keeping in touch

By James Laurie
6403 Darwin Road
Laurel, MD 20707

Clara Bonacci Rosipko

CLARA BONACCI ROSIPKO, 14 BALLMAN COURT, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21225 sends her love to all her family and friends, and remembers her yesterdays with affection. Clara is the daughter of Nicholas and Katherine Molinaro Bonacci of South Hospital St. She is the widow of Joseph Rosipko of Olyphant. Clara has three children, Donna, Maria, and Mary Jo, and two grandsons David and Stephen Lloyd. Her brothers and sisters are Lucille, Elsie, Viola, Vera, Rose, Mary, Gene, Nick, Anthony, Phillip, Josephine, Louie, and Sammy.

Thinking out loud . . . .

The subject on most peoples' minds these days is the weather. We've all learned to cope with the cold, and with the snow, but this ice is hard to take. A thin layer of snow fell, then we had about an inch of sleet, then some freezing rain, and finally the whole thing froze solid. With the thermometer measuring close to zero for three days in a row, rock salt melted little holes in the ice which quickly froze over again.

City residents blame the city street crews for the bad condition of the roads, but we really don't see what the street crews can do now. We'll just have to wait for a few days of warm weather for the ice to melt.

Usually the people who complain the loudest about the streets are the same people whose own sidewalks are impassible due to the ice and snow.

Congratulations to Mark Brennan of Carbondale. Mark must have had the luck of the Irish to win two tickets to the New Year's Eve party at the Hilton at Lackawanna Station. Sue Stephens sold him the winning ticket.

Speaking of the new hotel in Scranton, retired Carbondale Postmaster Jerry Barrett will be honored at a testimonial dinner at the Hilton at Lackawanna Station later this month.

Did you have your "yard of pork" on New Year's Day? How did the tradition of eating pork for good luck ever begin, anyhow?

1984 is a leap year. If any of you were born on February 29, call the NEWS or write us a note. We'd like to wish you a happy birthday when the time comes.

As 1983 came to a close, the financial news was that the economy is still improving, but our foreign trade deficit is frightfully large. While doing some Christmas shopping, we were alarmed at the number of goods that are manufactured in the Republic of China, Korea, and Japan. We could live without most of the foreign made goods. Maybe it's time we started imposing some import quotas and tariffs. Perhaps it would be best for all of us if we bought American manufactured products for a change.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Stephen Davis, 8 year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Davis. Stephen slipped on the ice and broke his leg on New Year's Day. What a way to start the new year! Stephen is a patient at Carbondale General Hospital.

Here's hoping that 1984 is a good one for everyone! Happy New Year!

Nostalgia

THE 1962 PIONEER YEARBOOK STAFF of Ben Franklin High School included, **First row, left to right:** Cathy Pellicano, Louine Henchak, Ruth Mannion, Terry Inbalzano, Joann Pettinato, Mary Calabro, Ann Pettinato, and Jan Morgan. **Second row:** Joe Munley, Tino Penzone, Susie Barlow, Carol Fedorchak, Jeannie Wallis, Linda Taylor, Joyce Slebodnik, Bobby Healey, Roy Miley, and Frankie Zazzera.

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